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I HAVE just read Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony's tribute to Dr. Cheddi Jagan, on the former Guyanese Leader's seventh death anniversary, in the March 11 edition of the Guyana Chronicle, under the caption "The Charisma of Cheddi Jagan."

Dr. Anthony listed a few elements of Dr. Jagan's charisma, and then mentioned Mrs. Janet Jagan's steadfast support for him and his cause. He reminded us of what Dr. Jagan himself wrote: "My wife, Janet, influenced me with a deep and abiding faith and caring for the poor, the disadvantaged and the handicapped, the oppressed and the marginalized, and she has a very deep commitment to honesty in

politics. As a result I do not worry about anything. I work together with her very closely we debate soundly without anything to worry about or anything to hide. She has given me peace of mind."

As a Guyanese citizen living abroad temporarily, I am indebted to Mrs. Jagan for her selfless, priceless contribution to my country as a freedom fighter, administrator, women's rights activist and journalist. Mrs. Jagan deserves the greatest respect from all of us.

It is mortifying these days, however, to read insulting and rude references to her by columnists, commentators and correspondents who are known opponents

of the People's Progressive Party, as well as those who profess loyalty to the party. People should avoid using uncivil words like "amnesia" and "hard-headed rhinoceros" when describing Mrs. Jagan, a founder and pillar of Guyana's oldest political party. One cannot honour Dr. Cheddi Jagan and vilify his wife in the same breath, as some people are doing.

It is therefore apt, thoughtful and gracious that Dr. Anthony has noted Mrs. Jagan's role in Dr. Jagan's remarkable, unforgettable life.

**HEMRAJ MUNIRAM,
ONTARIO, CANADA.**